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From: Shelton, John@Wildlife
Sent: Mon 7/1/2013 9:20:03 PM
Subject: Effort to Coordinate Agencies and Stakeholders regarding Lower Main Stem San Joaquin River

Hi All,

I and many of you have been working on issues concerning the Lower San Joaquin River as it enters the South Delta. The programs and processes I'm involved with have quite a bit of overlap and inter-relationships. For instance, I'm the Ecosystem Restoration Program's (ERP) Grant Manager for West Stanislaus Irrigation District's (WSID) Grant for designing and permitting a fish screen on their intake canal (Main Canal) that traverses the San Joaquin Nation Wildlife Refuge. This process (the WSID Fish Screen) has been under study for quite some time, both with local funding from WSID and with considerable funding from the Anadromous Fish Screen Program. The Refuge was developed with funding assistance from the ERP and has had restoration funding from DWR's Floodplain Corridor Program. The Main Canal's entrance is across the river from land owned by River Partners that was purchased for restoration purposes, including floodplain restoration, with assistance from the Wildlife Conservation Board and is close to getting some restoration funding for DWR's Flood Conservation Strategy program. River Partners is also the lead for the Mid-San Joaquin Regional Plan as part of the Central Valley Flood Plan that is currently under development.

From what I know about there are several other processes including: 1) West Stanislaus ID Fish Screen design and permitting; 2) the SWRCB's Update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan, Phase I: San Joaquin River Flows; 3) DWR's Central Valley Flood Management Planning

(CVFMP) Program's Mid-San Joaquin River Regional Flood Management Planning; 4) the CVFMP's Central Valley Flood System Conservation Strategy; 5) the San Joaquin Tributary Settlement Process; 6) the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program and Anadromous Fish Screen Program; 7) USBR's implementation the OCAP Bio Opinions; and/or 8) the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan. I am not sure that we (in the larger sense) have alignment across all of these programs and processes for what we expect/plan for the San Joaquin River from the confluence of the Stanislaus River to the Head of Old River, including flood planning for Paradise Cut.

To address this, I would like to bring together representatives of the agencies, NGO's and other stakeholders together to discuss our goals and objectives for this area, the main stem San Joaquin River from the Tuolumne confluence to the Sough Delta, including Paradise Cut and Old River. My first objective is to share information on the various programs and processes. For this, I propose an initial step is to have a half-day meeting to summarize our various programs and/or processes concerning this region of the San Joaquin River and then to discuss how we can work together to keep the different programs and processes aligned. In other words, I expect that this would be the first meeting, with more to follow if we believe it is worthwhile.

Do you or someone else from you agency or program want to be involved? I realize that this is more work, but it could be worthwhile over time in helping make our work more efficient. Once we can identify the main contacts for this, I will send out a Doodle Poll to set a date for a meeting. If you know of an organization or person that I missed, please let me know. I would like to follow up with a Doodle Poll request to the primary contacts by the end of next week. Feel free to give me a call if you have questions or comments.

Thanks

John M. Shelton

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Wisdom is the reward for a lifetime of listening ... when you'd have preferred to talk. ~ D.J. Kaufman